

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A job accounting and chargeback system for software products, the system comprising:

5 a manager in the form of a software product use monitoring subsystem that handles requests for and grants rights to use software products and which develops software product use information;

10 a job accounting and chargeback (JACS) subsystem that develops chargeback data that is referenced to charged entities that are charged for use of software or computer facilities; and

a job accounting and software use intercoupling facility that intercouple the software product use information with the chargeback data in a manner that provides software-product chargeback information.

2. The system of claim 1, further including a process-data collector that develops process-related data and the job accounting and chargeback subsystem deriving identities of the charged entities from the
5 process-related data.

3. The system of claim 2, in which the software-product chargeback information comprises cost information for the use of the software products and the manager is a license manager.

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4. The system of claim 2, in which the software-product chargeback information is referenced to software product vendors.

5. The system of claim 2, in which the process-related data comprises process detail records.

6. The system of claim 5, in which the process detail records comprise links to event log records.

7. The system of claim 2, in which the software-product chargeback information comprises process-product-link records and each such record comprises at least two fields.

8. The system of claim 7, in which the at least two fields include a key field pointing to a process detail record and product key field.

9. The system of claim 8, in which the product key field comprises a vendor id or a product id.

10. The system of claim 8, further comprising a third field, which is a link to a particular licensing session.

11. The system of claim 2, further including a plurality of software clients operable with corresponding

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5 client exit routines, components of the job accounting and chargeback subsystem being present in the client exit routines.

12. The system of claim 2, in which the process-related data comprises system management facility (SMF) records.

13. The system of claim 2, including a process-to-product link table.

14. The system of claim 2, including a process-to-product vendor link table.

15. The system of claim 2, in which the intercoupling facility correlates the software-product chargeback information to specific product licensing sessions.

16. The system of claim 2, including a facility that develops the software-product chargeback information over selected time periods.

17. The system of claim 2, including a facility that compares chargeback data against budgeted charges relative to specific software products.

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18. The system of claim 2, including a reporter that generates viewable reports, displaying selected portions of the software-product chargeback information.

19. The system of claim 18, the reporter including a data sorter.

20. The system of claim 2, including a facility that allocates to specific products a total cost, which cost is used by the job accounting and chargeback subsystem to develop the chargeback data.

21. The system of claim 2, including a facility that measures a parameter indicative of the extent of use of different ones of the software products and the parameter being selected from the parameter group consisting of: CPU time; elapsed time; number of queries to a database; number of records retrieved; and use peripherals related to the use of software products.

22. The system of claim 2, in which the software products act in the system as software clients and the manager is a license manager that acts in the system as a server and including a plurality of license manager agents that execute client exit routines in response to being presented with license requests from the software clients, and further including a JACS client exit routine that interacts with the client exit routine of the

10 license manager agents, in a manner such that the JACS
client exit routine obtains the process-related data
which is then returned to the client exit routine.

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